

LUTHER RICE SEMINARY INC.

3038 Evans Mill Road
Lithonia, Georgia 30038
Phone: 770.484.1204 / 1.800.442.1577
www.LRU.edu



The Pioneer (USPS 052-470) is published tri-annually by Luther Rice Seminary and University.

Return Service Requested

LRSU is accredited by the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges and Schools (TRACS).

LRSU admits students of any race, color, sex, and national or ethnic origin.

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Lithonia, GA
Permit No. 38

*****AUTO**5-DIGIT 30012
Mr. John Q. Sample 1
1234 Any Street
Anywhere, OH 44444-4444

LUTHER RICE SEMINARY AND UNIVERSITY



PIONEER
MARCH 2012 EDITION

Pastor leads two churches and serves as military chaplain

Luther Rice Graduate shares God's love in Michigan

He's already a busy guy. Theodore Whitely is the pastor of Calvary United Methodist Church and Henderson Memorial United Methodist Church in Detroit, Michigan – and now he has been appointed Senior Chaplain for the State of Michigan's Air National Guard.



Luther Rice alum Lt. Col. Theodore Whitely has been appointed Senior Chaplain for the State of Michigan's Air National Guard.

Chaplaincy is nothing new to Lt. Col Whitely, who received his Master's of Divinity from LRSU in 1980. He served as Chaplain's Assistant in the Army, and on April 24, 1989, completed the Chaplain coursework and was commissioned as a 1st Lieutenant to serve as Chaplain of the 127th Wing.

"There are three main issues I will be focusing on," Whitely says of his position with the Air National guard. "These are the ministry of counseling, presence and spiritual needs."

He performs weddings, funerals, memorials, and participates in Wing functions with prayers and benedictions. A chaplain's role also includes many other duties such as counseling, performing religious services, caring for military families and much more.

"After 21 years of military service of being a Chaplain in the Air Force, hard work pays off. Being a Chaplain is truly challenging and also a blessing. I am especially grateful for the 15 years spent at Selfridge Air National Guard Base. I thank everybody there for allowing me to serve," Whitely says.

Luther Rice is proud of all its graduates working to spread the Gospel and advance the Great Commission mandate locally and around the globe.

IT'S A
Year of Jubilee
CELEBRATE WITH US



By Russ Sorrow
VP, Institutional Advancement

You have certainly joined in the spirit of celebration, and we're excited to see it! One of the integral parts of our 50th Anniversary celebrations is the *Year of Jubilee* Matching Challenge to help raise scholarship funds.

The goal is \$200,000 and as of this writing, we are closing in on the goal!

We started out halfway there, because of the Matching Challenge Fund donated by the Board of Trustees, Faculty, Staff, and a few strategic LRSU Partners.

They contributed \$100,000 pledged to match every dollar given by friends like you – doubling every gift in impact!

The campaign actually started last fall and will run through 2012, and we're off to a fantastic start, thanks to the extraordinary support of friends like you.

In response to the campaign, we are seeing gifts

increase and new Support Partners step up to join in our mission, and many former donors are also beginning to give again as well.

Thank you!

All of the money raised during the campaign will be used to supply scholarships to deserving students – a worthy cause indeed.

Help us reach our goal with your tax-deductible gift today, and we'll thank-you by sending a limited-edition 50th Anniversary lapel pin.

You can give by using the tear-off reply card in this newsletter, give a gift online through our website or simply give us a call and you can donate your gift right over the phone. We also accept gifts of appreciated assets such as stocks, mutual funds and IRAs.

Please pray about what you can do to make a 50th Anniversary gift in support of our God-given mission, *to train Christian ministers and leaders to spread the Gospel of Jesus Christ around the world.*

INSIDE THIS EDITION, YOU'LL FIND

❖ A Personal Word from Dr. Flanagan **PAGE 2** ❖ Your Invitation to a Celebration! **PAGE 3**

❖ A Trip Down Memory Lane **PAGE 4** ❖ **And much more!**

A Personal Word



from **DR. FLANAGAN**

Come Celebrate Our 50th Anniversary

It is with much excitement and anticipation that we enter this year, the 50th year of ministry here at Luther Rice Seminary and University. Our 50th Anniversary celebration, the President's Reception, along with the 50th Anniversary Gala Banquet, are slated for May 17, 2012 at the Evergreen Resort in Stone Mountain Park.

These celebrations will be a time of commemorating what God has accomplished, honoring history and looking forward to the opportunities that the future holds. Please accept my personal invitation to be a part of all the festivities.

As part of the activities at the 50th Anniversary Gala Banquet, we'll be recognizing those who have been instrumental in the founding and development of the institution.

Among those who are influential today is the Board of Trustees of Luther Rice. They are ardent supporters of our God-given mission, generous financial contributors and an encouragement to me personally as I lead the institution.

I also want to give special thanks to all of the great employees who have served Luther Rice, now and down through the years. God has blessed us with wonderful, dedicated employees who faithfully and professionally



carry out their duties on a daily basis.

Another great facet of the 50th Anniversary is the effort to meet the \$100,000 matching challenge to provide scholarships to deserving ministry students.

We're inviting everyone to contribute to the campaign so your gift can be doubled by the matching fund. When you do, we'll give you one of our limited-edition 50th Anniversary lapel pins. It's beautiful and makes a great conversation starter so you can tell friends about LRSU.

And your gift is so important. The demand for scholarship funds has never been higher among deserving students. Please pray about what God would lead you to give to the Year of Jubilee Matching Challenge, which is our 50th Anniversary Scholarship Campaign. Every dollar you give will be doubled — for a marvelous return. This is your opportunity ... Impact the Kingdom!

Go to www.LRU.edu to make your tax-deductible donation today, or use the tear-off in this newsletter, to be **DOUBLED** for scholarships.

Thank you!

James H. Flanagan
President

Your personal invitation
TO AN HISTORIC EVENT

1962-2012

Don't miss the 50th Anniversary Celebration!
**JOIN US AS WE CELEBRATE 50 YEARS OF MINISTRY
and CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Plan now to attend the 2012
**50TH ANNIVERSARY PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION
AND GALA BANQUET**

WHEN:
Thursday, May 17, 2012

WHERE:
Evergreen Marriott Conference Resort at Stone Mountain Park

TIME:
5:30 pm President's Reception • 6:30 pm Banquet Seating
7:00 pm Gala Celebration Banquet

TICKETS:
www.LRU.edu/Gala50

**Be part of this once-in-a-lifetime event,
shared with the entire Luther Rice family.**

President's Reception Festivities:

One ticket covers both the President's Reception and the 50th Anniversary Gala Banquet as one event ...

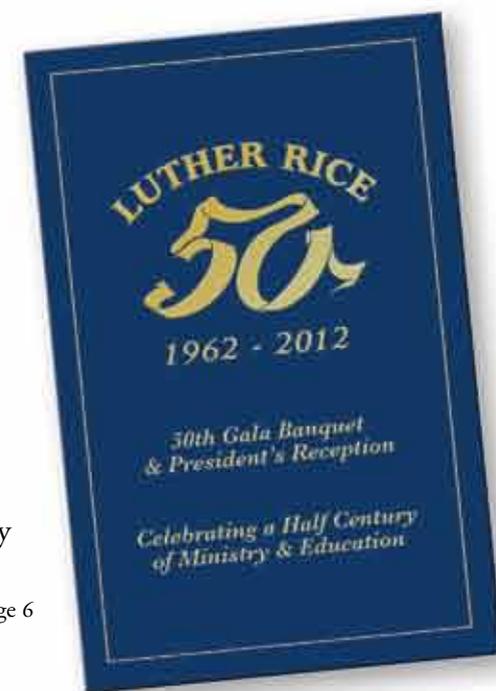
Everyone is invited to mix and mingle with old friends, alumni, Trustees, Faculty, Staff, and the President ...

Enjoy delicious hors d'oeuvres and refreshing beverages ...

Professional photographer onsite for photos ...

Historical Luther Rice memorabilia display including the very first graduation program ...

Continues on Page 6



Take a trip down memory lane — Luther Rice historic timeline

1982 Graduation



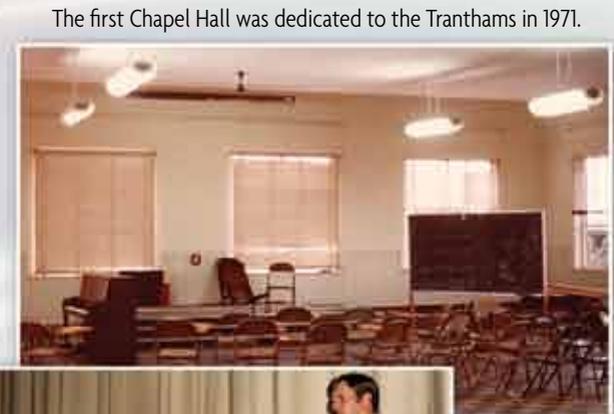
1983 Graduation Program



25th Anniversary Pioneer



1995 Graduation



The first Chapel Hall was dedicated to the Tranthams in 1971.



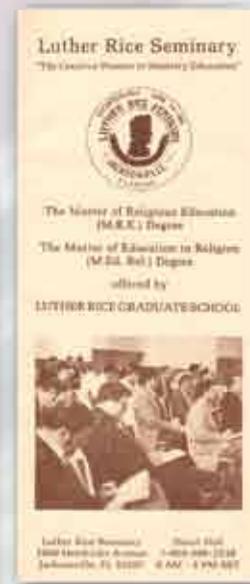
Remember them?
The Luther Rice Singers were used to promote the school with music in churches across the United States.



1964 saw our first graduating class!
Here's the program from that first Commencement.



Our original building on Hendricks Avenue in Jacksonville — it was the culmination of a vision and the beginning of a legacy.



Our Founder, Dr. Witty, with his wife Katherine in front of the original Luther Rice building.

- | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|
| June 14, 1962
Founded by Dr. Robert Witty, Luther Rice Seminary granted a charter by the State of Florida. | September 11, 1962
First classes meet in Florida at Central Baptist Church. | 1965
Student body reaches 100 students. | 1968
Dr. Robert Witty named President and first property purchased. | 1970
First Administrative Building purchased, located at 1050 Hendricks Ave. in Jacksonville, FL. | 1976
Full-time faculty begin to serve students. | 1982
First library building constructed on Home St. and opened to students. | 1982
Dr. Robert Witty becomes Chancellor and Dr. Gene Williams inaugurated as second President of Luther Rice Seminary. | 1991
Full accreditation awarded from the Transnational Association of Christian Colleges & Schools. | 1991
LRS relocation to Lithonia, Georgia, to property gifted by a local church. | 1992
Dr. James Bryant inaugurated as third President. | 1992
Williams Hall Administrative Building opened on new campus. | 1993
Student body reaches 1,000 students. | 1994
Dr. James Flanagan inaugurated as fourth President. | 2004
Woodlawn Hall Library and Classroom Building opened. | 2012
50th Anniversary Celebration. |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|--|

Luther Rice Seminary and University Historical Timeline

Complimentary entrance into Stone Mountain Park the night of the event included with each ticket ...

Convenient free parking is available immediately adjacent to the Evergreen entrance.

50th Anniversary Gala Celebration Banquet Festivities:

From the President's Reception, we will be ushered into the elegantly appointed ballroom for dinner ...

Experience a fantastic four-course dinner prepared exclusively for this event by the Executive Chef ...

Enjoy time fellowshiping around the tables with other Luther Rice friends and graduates ...

The evening's program will include recognition of special guests important to the development of Luther Rice, inspirational music, historical video clips, remarks from the President, Dr. James Flanagan, and more.

Everyone in attendance will receive a limited-edition 50th Anniversary gift.

Ticket Information:

Order tickets online at www.LRU.edu/Gala50

Space is very limited for this special event so be sure to request your tickets today.

For information, please contact:

Laura Powell at (770) 484-1204 x258 or via email at: LPowell@LRU.edu

Do not miss this history-making event celebrating God's grace in the life of Luther Rice Seminary and University!

Exclusive Event Sponsors:

BBS & Associates
Chick-fil-A Turner Hill Road
Hawkins Ministries Association

Space is very limited — Order your tickets today



Evergreen Marriott Resort



Get your unique thank you gift! Support scholarships with a gift to be DOUBLED by the Year of Jubilee Matching Challenge — and be sure to request your 50th Anniversary lapel pin. This beautiful pin is an attractive piece of jewelry, and when you wear it, friends are sure to ask about LRSU — so you'll have the opportunity to spread the word about the school. And of course, your contribution will be DOUBLED by the challenge fund and help provide the means for deserving students in need to attend. Thank you for your partnership in this exciting Anniversary year!

Yes, Dr. Flanagan, I want my gift to be doubled by the matching challenge to provide twice as much scholarship funding for deserving students in need. Enclosed is my gift of: \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Luther Rice Seminary and University • 3038 Evans Mill Road • Lithonia, Georgia 30038
Phone: 770.484.1204 / 1.800.442.1577 • www.LRU.edu

Luther Rice Professor speaks up for medically vulnerable, in new book

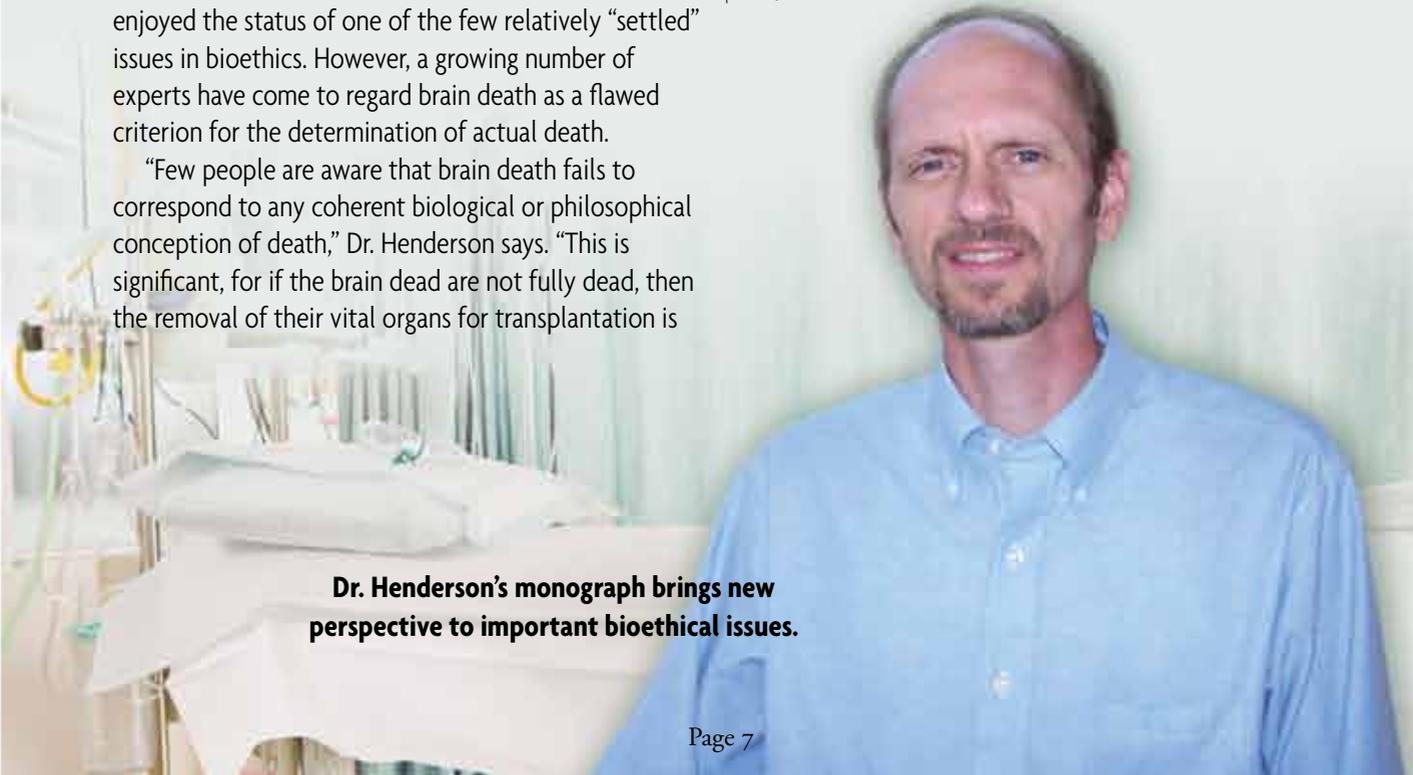
What is “brain death”? Is it ethical to remove organs from a living person labeled “brain dead”? How do we protect living people from organ harvesting for transplant?

These are sensitive bioethical questions, tackled by Luther Rice Assistant Professor of Bioethics and Apologetics, Dr. D. Scott Henderson in a new book. *Death and Donation: Rethinking Brain Death as a Means for Procuring Transplantable Organs* was chosen for publication by Wipf and Stock Publishers.

The “brain death” criterion for human death has enjoyed the status of one of the few relatively “settled” issues in bioethics. However, a growing number of experts have come to regard brain death as a flawed criterion for the determination of actual death.

“Few people are aware that brain death fails to correspond to any coherent biological or philosophical conception of death,” Dr. Henderson says. “This is significant, for if the brain dead are not fully dead, then the removal of their vital organs for transplantation is

the direct cause of their deaths.” Dr. Henderson’s work synthesizes the social, legal, medical, religious, and philosophical problems inherent in allowing for organ donation under the brain death criterion. Ultimately his book advocates the abandonment of the brain death criterion in light of its adverse failures, and concludes by laying the groundwork for a new policy of death in an effort to further the good of organ donation and transplantation. Congratulations Dr. Henderson, on your newly published work.



Dr. Henderson's monograph brings new perspective to important bioethical issues.